

From: "Adams, Ben C." <badams@bakerdonelson.com>
To: "William Gibbons (wgibbons)" <wgibbons@memphis.edu>
"Mr. Jeffrey T. Higgs" <jhiggs@loccdc.org>
Date: 10/12/2016 3:36:20 PM
Subject: Fwd: OSC & Raymond Kelly
Attachments: OSC Letter.pdf
ATT00001.htm

Seems pretty dramatic without even hearing what K2 is proposing. Bill how about you and who you think appropriate having meet and briefing with Eric.

Ben C. Adams, Jr.

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Begin forwarded message:

From: "Eric Robertson" <eric@communitylift.org>
To: "Jeffrey Higgs" <jhiggs@loccdc.org>, "William L. Gibbons - Memphis Shelby Crime Commission" <bill.gibbons225@gmail.com>
Cc: "Blair Taylor" <btaylor@memphistomorrow.org>, "Adams, Ben C." <badams@bakerdonelson.com>, "keith.norman@bmhcc.org" <keith.norman@bmhcc.org>, "hcollins@memphiscrime.org" <hcollins@memphiscrime.org>, "Doug.McGowen@memphistn.gov" <Doug.McGowen@memphistn.gov>
Subject: Re: OSC & Raymond Kelly

Jeffrey and Mr. Gibbons, et al.,

Thanks for your response and the board's attempt to make the best out of a bad situation. Unfortunately, Operation Safe Community's decision to continue on with its contract with Mr. Kelly and his "broken window strategies" does not align with the values and principles of Community LIFT. Therefore we rescind our partnership with OSC. Please find attached an official letter requesting reconsideration of the contract with Mr. Kelly and removal of Community LIFT as a partner from the OSC website and any future communication.

We believe stop-and-frisk is fruit from the broken windows poisonous tree. Before coming to this decision we discussed it thoroughly and I asked the opinion of national funders and community development experts. In each case, there was an audible gasp of oh-no, as an instant reaction. Jeff, you know like I do that the feeling of frustration and oppression is at an all time high in our distressed, resource poor neighborhoods as well as for many people of color along every economic class. Those feelings drove thousands of people to the bridge and had Memphis holding its breath. Mr. Kelly and his broken window strategies only exacerbate the sense of oppression and frustration. Knowing this, I am completely lost as to why the organization (OSC) continues the relationship, but Community LIFT refuses to be a part of lighting the match that makes Memphis the next Charlotte or Baltimore, etc. I am not one to engage in hyperbolic language, I honestly believe that Memphis like many cities with deep social and economic divide, is on the edge as demonstrated by the bridge take over, and any broken window strategies will only push us over that edge. Can you imagine what it's been like trying to recruit companies to Charlotte in the aftermath of the riots?

There are plenty of consultants and police departments that have achieved a reduction in crime without the unconstitutional discriminatory ruling baggage of Mr. Kelly and his broken windows, please seek them out. Mr. Kelly is not the lone holder of knowledge to reduce crime.

Lastly, Community LIFT and other community development groups across the city intend to partner with City government in a citywide community engagement process for the Memphis Comprehensive (People & Place) Plan. The trust and credibility required to be a part of such a process also requires that we (LIFT and possibly other community and grassroots groups) dissociate ourselves from Operation Safe Community as long as it associates with Mr. Kelly and broken windows strategies. I believe City government may want to reconsider its association with OSC as well, if it too wants to deliver on its promise to Comp Plan funders of an equitable plan that addresses people and place through establishing trust and credibility during the community engagement process. The Comp Plan is a once in a generation opportunity that we don't want to waste because of one contract with Mr. Kelly's broken window strategies due to the message it communicates.

Regrets,
Eric

--

Eric Robertson
President
Community LIFT
River City Capital

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(901) 521.4232 | Office
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Note: Our address has changed.

On Thu, Sep 29, 2016 at 10:31 PM, Jeffrey Higgs <jhiggs@loccdc.org> wrote:

Eric, just wanted to follow up on this email and MSCC meeting today. There was great discussion today regarding Raymond Kelly and K-2 Intelligence contract with MSCC

The contract has two Phases and some recommendations
Also there was questions raise by myself and Pastor Keith Norman, about his K-2 Intelligence's role here in Memphis.

It appears that while Raymond Kelly is contracted with MSCC, I feel confident that along with others on the commission that "Stop and Frisk" tactics will not be used in Memphis, while MPD has a right and obligation to stop persons committing crimes, we were assured, by Director Rawlings that racial profiling will not be the impetus for those persons whom are stopped and checked by MPD

Director Rawlings has stated in the press that he will not employ these tactics, and he restated today that those tactics are not why MSCC brought Raymond Kelly here.

I am, along with Keith Norman and many other members of the crime commission including Chairman Adams and ED Gibbons, feel confident in what they are asking Raymond Kelly to do.

Phase I - Strategic high level review of and recommendation for MPD Strategies to significantly reduce violence crime. These are due October 1,

Phase II -Working with MPD Director to create detailed plans for MPD to implement Phase I. Due February 2017.

Some of the recommendations are:

- * Homicide /Shooting reduction
- *Gang investigation
- * domestic Violence Investigation'
- * Community Policing
- * MPD Staffing levels
- * Crime Reporting
- *Crime Analysis

I might add these are recommendation that have been in previous OCS Plans

and are under consideration for our new direction.

I along with members of community will be keeping a watch on how this progresses. I also a
Feel a lot better about how we are moving forward with Raymond Kelly.
Hope this give you a little insight into what his roles and direction will be.

Best
Jeffrey

Jeffrey T. Higgs, Executive Director
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Memphis, Tennessee 38101-1353
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-----Original Message-----

From: Blair Taylor [mailto:btaylor@memphistomorrow.org]
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2016 12:00 PM
To: Jeffrey T Higgs
Cc: Eric Robertson; badams@bakerdonelson.com; William L. Gibbons - Memphis Shelby Crime Commission (bill.gibbons225@gmail.com)
Subject: RE: OSC & Raymond Kelly

Goodness Jeffrey. I'm so sorry to hear that. Sending up prayers for your family.

Blair Taylor
President
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22 North Front Street, Suite 670
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Office: 901.322.8080
btaylor@memphistomorrow.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeffrey T Higgs [mailto:jhiggs@loccdc.org]
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2016 11:27 AM
To: Blair Taylor <btaylor@memphistomorrow.org>
Cc: Eric Robertson <eric@communitylift.org>; badams@bakerdonelson.com; William L. Gibbons - Memphis Shelby Crime Commission (bill.gibbons225@gmail.com) <bill.gibbons225@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: OSC & Raymond Kelly

All, I will not be at Executive Committee meeting today as I am preparing to funeralize my brother this Saturday, have a productive meeting

Jeffrey Higgs
LOCCDC

> On Sep 14, 2016, at 3:28 PM, Blair Taylor <btaylor@memphistomorrow.org> wrote:

>

> Thanks for letting us know of your concern Eric. While of course I don't speak for either Crime Commission or Director Rallings, I'm 100% confident that neither the crime commission nor director rallings would embrace any policing tactics that are unconstitutional or intentionally discriminatory.

>

> That said I'm copying Bill Gibbons who, as you know I think, has just taken the helm of the Crime Commission as its President. I'm not sure if the two of you have met, and it would probably be a good idea for you to do so when you have some time!

>

> Blair

>

> Blair Taylor

> President

> Memphis Tomorrow

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> Memphis, TN 38103

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> btaylor@memphistomorrow.org

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Eric Robertson [mailto:eric@communitylift.org]

> Sent: Wednesday, September 14, 2016 3:19 PM

> To: badams@bakerdonelson.com; Blair Taylor

> <btaylor@memphistomorrow.org>; Jeffrey Higgs <jhiggs@loccdc.org>

> Subject: OSC & Raymond Kelly

>

> Ben, Blair & Jeffrey,

>

> Good afternoon, I'm writing to you three as the people associated with Operation Safe Community that I trust and know best.

>

> Does OSC plan to continue its engagement with Raymond Kelly? How do you plan to respond or address community concerns about his advisement to OSC?

>

> I too am troubled by Operation Safe Community's engagement with Mr. Kelley and his controversial "broken window" strategies that skirt the constitutional rights of citizens at best and that are discriminatory at worst.

>

> Eric

>

> Sent from my iPhone

--

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Note: Our address has changed.

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